

TO THE  
Barnard Castle Local Board of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1894.

GENTLEMEN,

I.

During the course of the year 1894, there occurred, within the area of the Barnard Castle Local Board of Health, 85 deaths, this being the lowest rate on record, with the exception of the year 1889. Moreover, of the 84 deaths, 9 were of persons brought to the Teesdale Union Workhouse from other districts, and 2 were of militiamen also from other parts, thus reducing the death rate of our district to 74 or 17·04 per 1,000 of the population, as per census 1891.

The general death rate being at such a satisfactorily low figure, it is also pleasing to record that the rate of infantile mortality is also considerably less than the preceding year, being only 18, as compared with 30 for 1893. Of this number, 10 are of infants under one year. Out of the 18 deaths, 8 are put down as due to Bronchial Affections, 1 to Phthisis, 1 to Whooping Cough, 1 to Membranous Croup, and the rest to other Infantile Disorders. There were no fatal cases of Diarrhœa.

Twenty-seven deaths occurred among people over 65 years of age, the oldest being a man of 88 years. With reference to sex, the deaths of 44 males and 41 females were registered.

Zymotic or Infectious Diseases accounted for 3 deaths only (·68 per 1,000 of population).

Membranous Croup	-	-	-	1 case
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-	1 „
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	1 „
				<hr/>
				Total 3 cases

Diseases of the Respiratory Organs were responsible for 28 deaths, of which 9 were due to Phthisis. I may remark here, that, although the general death rate is so much lower than in 1893, yet the deaths from Pulmonary Complaints show an increase. This may be accounted for by the fact that the comparatively cold damp summer, while checking the spread of Diarrhœa and such summer complaints, has proved fatal to many cases of Chronic Pulmonary Disease.

Heart Disease caused the deaths of 13 persons during the year.

One hundred and eleven Births were registered during the year.



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## II.

The General Sick Rate for the past year has been remarkably low. In the case of Infectious Diseases, only 6 cases have been notified to me. Of these, 5 were cases of Erysipelas, and 1 of Membranous Croup.

In accordance with a resolution of the Board, Measles has been withdrawn from the list of Diseases to be notified.

There was a somewhat considerable outbreak of Whooping Cough towards the latter end of the year. In Bridgegate and Thorngate, among the poorer classes, the outbreak may be said to have been general, due, no doubt, to the utter impossibility of isolating cases when they occurred. But, though so many children were attacked, only 1 death resulted.

There were 2 cases of Measles at the North Eastern County School, obviously imported from the boys' home. But the strict isolation of the infected boys, from the date of their arrival at the School, prevented the spread of the disease, and there were no further cases.

The 5 cases of Erysipelas were scattered all over the town, and could not be traced to any sanitary defect in the patients' dwellings.

The 1 case of Membranous Croup proved fatal, but there were no further cases reported.

The district has been entirely free from Smallpox, Scarlet Fever, Typhoid, and Continued Fever.

There was almost a complete absence of Diarrhoea, and complaints of a choleraic nature (no deaths resulting therefrom), no doubt due to the cool summer and plentiful water supply.

## III.

The sanitary condition of the town is fairly satisfactory, the supply of water pure and abundant.

Plans and estimates have been prepared for a new and extensive drainage scheme for the town. It is proposed to establish a sewage farm, and there treat the sewage in such manner that the alleged contamination of the Tees water from Barnard Castle will be an impossibility.

Common Lodging-Houses have been duly visited and inspected.

The numerous private Slaughter-Houses have been under strict supervision.

No action has been called for with regard to offensive trades, factories, and workshops.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

ALFRED H. SEVIER, M.B.,

Medical Officer of Health.





*THE STARTFORTH DISTRICT*  
OF THE  
TEESDALE : RURAL : SANITARY : AUTHORITY.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1894.

GENTLEMEN,

I.

Within the area of that portion of the Barnard Castle Division of the Teesdale Rural Sanitary Authority, situate in the County of Yorkshire, which comprises 14 Townships, there occurred thirty-six deaths, or 13·07 per thousand of population *ar per* census 1891—being a slight decrease as compared with the previous year.

Infantile mortality shows, however, an increase, eight deaths of children under one year being registered for 1894, as compared with six for 1893.

Membranous Croup, Whooping Cough, and Bronchitis being responsible for one death each. Injuries caused the death of two children, and the rest died of other infantile disorders.

There were no fatal cases of Infantile Diarrhœa.

The deaths of persons over 65 years of age numbered thirteen, or 36·11 per cent. of total deaths.

Diseases of the Respiratory Organs accounted for eight deaths, or 22·22 per cent of total deaths. and 2·90 per 1,000 of population respectively.

Pulmonary Consumption was credited with three deaths.

Five deaths were ascribed to Heart Disease.

Infectious Disease was responsible for two deaths—one due to Membranous Croup, the other to Whooping Cough.

II.

The General Rate of Sickness for the year has been very low. There has been a marked absence of Diarrhœa and Dysenteric Complaints, due to the prevailing low temperature of the summer months, this is in marked contrast to the previous year when such diseases occurred in great numbers.



In the early Spring there was an outbreak of Diptheritic Croup in the neighbourhood of Wycliffe, resulting in one death.

Whooping Cough was prevalent during the Autumn, in the Village of Startforth, more especially at Bridge End, where it attacked nearly all the young children inhabiting that place, and resulting in one death—that of an infant a few weeks old.

Only one case each of Scarlet Fever and Measles came to my knowledge.

There were no cases of Typhoid Fever.

### III.

The Sanitary Supervision of the District has been carried out with the usual care and efficiency, many improvements in drainage and water supply having taken place. The supply of water in wells has received special attention, being frequently analysed and tested.

A house in the Village of Boldron, which I inspected, was discovered to be in a deplorable condition of dilapidation and bad sanitation—roof leaking, walls cracked, and drains blocked. After some delay, the necessary repairs and alterations were undertaken, and the house rendered inhabitable. I also inspected a house near Wycliffe, reported to be in a filthy and insanitary state. The tenants were given notice to leave by the owner.

All Dairies and Cow Sheds have been frequently inspected and found in a satisfactory condition.

No action has been called for with regard to Factories and Workshops.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

**ALFRED H. SEVIER,**

Medical Officer of Health.





THE BARNARD CASTLE DISTRICT  
OF THE  
TEESDALE : RURAL : SANITARY : AUTHORITY.

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ANNUAL REPORT, 1894.

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GENTLEMEN,

I.

Within the area of that portion of the Barnard Castle Division of the Teesdale Rural Sanitary Authority, situated in the county of Durham, which comprises five townships, there occurred in the course of the year 1894, 13 deaths, or 13·04 per 1,000 of the population, as per census 1891, being a precisely similar number as in 1893.

The death of 3 infants under the age of one year were registered—23·07 per cent. of total deaths, this being also a similar number to the previous year. Two of these deaths are ascribed to Heart Disease, and one to Congenital Weakness.

The deaths of persons over 65 years of age number 5, or 38·04 per cent. of total deaths.

Diseases of the Respiratory Organs accounted for 3 deaths.

Pulmonary Consumption caused the death of 1 person.

The deaths of 3 persons were ascribed to Heart Disease.

Infectious Disease caused the death of 1 person, in the case of a child who succumbed to Membranous Croup.



## II.

The general rate of Sickness was low. Especially marked was the absence of Diarrhœa, Dysentery, and Choleraic Complaints generally.

Infectious Disease was rare, the only exception being an outbreak of Membranous Croup, in and around the village of Whorlton, resulting in the death of 1 child.

No cases of Typhoid Fever, Measles, or Scarlet Fever came to my knowledge.

## III.

As regards the sanitary supervision of the district, it was carried out in the usual thorough manner, the Water Supply receiving particular attention. In August last, the well at Whorlton was examined, and the water found to be bad.

All Dairies, Cow Sheds, etc., have been regularly inspected, and found in a satisfactory condition.

No action has been called for in connection with Workshops and Factories.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

**ALFRED H. SEVIER, M.B.,**

Medical Officer of Health.

